

## LINCOLN-LANCASTER COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Board of Health

May 13, 2014

### ROLL CALL

The meeting of the Board of Health was called to order at 5:03 PM by Heidi Stark at the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department. Members Present: Roma Amundson, Alan Doster, Doug Emery, Karla Lester, Michelle Petersen, Craig Strong, Brittany Behrens (ex-officio), Rick Hoppe (ex-officio), Tim Sieh (ex-officio) and Heidi Stark.

Members Absent: Jacquelyn Miller, Mike Tavlin.

Staff Present: Judy Halstead, Charlotte Burke, Steve Beal, Steve Frederick, Scott Holmes, Andrea Haberman, Kathy Cook, Tim Timmons, Raju Kakarlapudi and Elaine Severe.

Others Present: Robert Downey and Nancy Hicks.

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Dr. Stark asked if there were any additions or corrections to the Agenda.

Motion: Moved by Dr/ Petersen that the Agenda be approved as printed. Second by Ms. Amundson. Motion carried by acclamation.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Dr. Stark asked if there were any additions or corrections to the Minutes.

Motion: Moved by Dr. Doster that the April 8, 2014 Minutes be approved as printed. Second by Dr. Petersen. Motion carried by acclamation.

### PUBLIC SESSION

### DEPARTMENT REPORTS

#### 1. Health Director Update

Ms. Halstead thanked everyone for attending the Board of Health Luncheon and Awards Ceremony on April 24<sup>th</sup>. She reported the Summer Food Program will begin on May 28<sup>th</sup> and provide meals at 36 sites across the City. The revisions to the Lincoln Municipal Code Swimming Pool ordinance were forwarded to the Lincoln City Council for approval. The Board of Health Resolution regarding Electronic Cigarettes was approved by the Public Building Commission, Parks & Recreation Advisory Board, Mayor and Lancaster County Board of Commissioners. The Safe Kids Coalition is providing numerous car seat checkups across the City. The Department issued a news release urging residents to be sure they are vaccinated against Tetanus in light of the storm cleanups. Staff provided information

house-to-house in Malcolm and Raymond after the storm.

Ms. Halstead asked Mr. Frederick to provide an update on MERS (Middle Eastern Respiratory Syndrome). He stated most cases have occurred in Saudi Arabia. To date, there are 538 cases with 145 deaths. The US now has a second case. He stated the virus does spread from person to person but both of the cases were health care professionals who cared for ill patients outside of the US. Officials do not believe it will be a major risk in the United States.

#### CURRENT BUSINESS (Action items)

#### CURRENT BUSINESS (Information Items)

##### 1. Emergency Response Assignments

Ms. Halstead provided information on the Department's role in Emergency Response. She reviewed the National Incident Management System (NIMS) which includes the Incident Command System, Multiagency Coordination Systems and Public Information. She explained the roles of staff and other partners who respond to such emergency incidents. She explained the process and noted that everyone involved is continually training and tabletop exercises are regularly held. Lt. Col. Strong stated the military is a resource and they are involved in the same types of training.

##### 1. Animal Emergency Management Planning

Mr. Beal and Mr. Downey reviewed information on animal emergency planning. Mr. Downey provided background information on the Humane Society's Pieloch Adoption Centers. Mr. Beal reviewed the Animal Emergency Response Plan, the calling trees, the Humane Society's Sheltering and Care Plan, the local veterinarian list, and the Animal Control equipment inventory. A Interlocal Agreement between the City and County elected officials for emergency Animal Control services outside the City limits is being drafted. A Memorandum of Understanding between the Red Cross-Nebraska SW Iowa Region, the Capital Humane Society and Animal Control is also being put in place. Mr. Downey stated the Humane Society now has a disaster plan and he explained the Humane Society's role in sheltering and caring for pets in the event of a disaster.

##### 3. Update and Trends in Birth, Death, and Communicable Disease Data

Mr. Frederick reviewed the highlights of the birth data through 2013 and death data through 2012. Highlights of the birth data include teen births have been declining, the low birth weight rate has been declining, and the percent of expectant mothers beginning prenatal care in the first trimester has fallen. Death data highlights include cancer is the leading cause of death overall for men and women and for age groups under 75, lung and colorectal cancer are the two leading causes of cancer mortality, and heart disease is the second leading cause of death overall, for both men and women, and for those 85 and older. He also reviewed the Communicable Disease Data. Highlights

included chlamydia and gonorrhea rates and numbers have been rising, pertussis tends to be cyclical with a doubling of cases in 2013 and 2012 and norovirus is not a reportable virus.

Air Quality Report

Mr. Holmes provided an update on the Air Quality and noted the Department issued health advisories due to the extensive burning in the Midwest, especially the Flint Hills area of Kansas. The burning began on March 29, 2014 and continued through the 3<sup>rd</sup> week in April. On April 18, 2014, Lincoln experienced their worst air quality measurements from fine particulate matter. Staff met with the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality and had conversations with the State of Kansas and the Environmental Protection Agency Region VII in Kansas City regarding concerns about their burning activities and how it effects individuals in surrounding states. Staff are gathering data from schools, day care centers and local emergency rooms at the hospitals to determine how individuals were effected. The Department monitors air quality and the Air Quality Index for Lincoln is updated daily.

FUTURE BUSINESS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Regular Meeting – June 10, 2014 – 5:00 PM

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 PM.

Elaine Severe  
Recording Secretary

Jacquelyn Miller, DDS  
Vice-President

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